

## Storm Water Rule 6 Phase II

### What is Rule 6?

- Rule 6 (327 IAC 15-6) requires operators of industrial facilities to obtain a general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from IDEM.
- The permit requires industries to monitor their storm water run-off as well as develop and implement best management practices (BMPs) to minimize or eliminate their impact on the environment.
- Eligibility for an NPDES permit is determined by several factors including:
  - Type of industry;
  - Activities exposed to storm water; and
  - The industry's storm water conveyance connection to a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) or waters of the state.

### Why is storm water run-off from industries a concern?

- When it rains or when snow and ice melt, the water run-off picks up pollutants along its route and carries them into rivers, lakes and streams.
- Some industries store materials in areas where it can contribute to polluted storm water run-off. Materials may include petroleum products, solvents, heavy metals, solids and road salt.
- If carried into the waterway, these pollutants can cause environmental damage and potentially affect aquatic life.

### How will the rule change under Phase II?

- Additional sampling requirements, including total copper, total zinc, total lead and E. coli bacteria, are under consideration to be added to improve the overall storm water quality monitoring from industrial sites.
- IDEM will establish a 5-year permit term limit (currently, permits do not expire).
- Conditional No Exposure Certification option will expand to all categories of industry. Currently, only "light industry," such as printing and publishing, food products, electronic equipment and general warehousing, may apply for the exclusion.

### What is Conditional No Exposure Exclusion?

- "No exposure" means all industrial activities and material storage areas are not exposed to precipitation through moving activities and storing materials indoors, which eliminates contact with storm water run-off from the site.
- Once a completed certification form is filed with IDEM, the Conditional No Exposure Exclusion would exclude the operator of such a facility from storm water permitting requirements.

For Additional Information contact:  
The Office of Water Quality  
Storm Water Group at (800) 451-6027